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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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ATER WYNNE LLP 222 SW COLUMBIA, SUITE 1800 PORTLAND, OR 97201-6618			EXAMINER SIDDIQI, MOHAMMAD A	
			ART UNIT 2154	PAPER NUMBER
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**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/772,202

Applicant(s)

THORSON, JOEL

Examiner

MOHAMMAD A. SIDDIQI

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 February 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SF/ICE)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. Claims 1-21 are presented for the examination.

#### ***Specification***

2. The specification is objected to as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter. See 37 CFR 1.75(d) (1) and MPEP § 608.01(o). Correction of the following is required: Claims 15-21 recites the limitation "machine-accessible medium". There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the disclosure.

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

3. Where applicant acts as his or her own lexicographer to specifically define a term of a claim contrary to its ordinary meaning, the written description must clearly redefine the claim term and set forth the uncommon definition so as to put one reasonably skilled in the art on notice that the applicant intended to so redefine that claim term. *Process Control Corp. v. HydReclaim Corp.*, 190 F.3d 1350, 1357, 52 USPQ2d 1029, 1033 (Fed. Cir. 1999). The term "content that, when accessed by a machine, causes the machine to" in claim 15 is used by the claim to mean "instruction or code", while the accepted meaning is "instruction." The term is indefinite because the specification does not

clearly redefine the term. Content does not cause machine to maintain and distribute database records.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ananian et al. (US 2003/0028451) (Hereinafter, Ananian) in view of Boyce et al. (6,934,838) (hereinafter Boyce).

6. As per claim 1, Ananian discloses A system comprising: a personal record comprising a personal profile (1102, fig 11, para

#0351, line 7) about a subject (client/user 111, fig 11, para #0351, line 2) and a message filtering policy determined by the subject (para #0351, lines 6-10); an anonymity service (140, fig 1), the anonymity service being an intermediary between the subject and a message sponsor (vendor 112, user 111, 140 anonymity, fig 1), the message sponsor (vendor 112, fig 1) desiring to send a message (vendor catalogue, para #0193) to the subject based on the personal record (para #0184 and para #0193); a message deposit sent to the anonymity service by the message sponsor

wherein the message deposit comprises the message (vendor 112, user 111, 140 anonymity, fig 1, para #0184 and para #0193), a message targeting specification (para #0450), and a message profile (para #0193);  
a database maintained by the anonymity service (review, share, store profile, para #0180; #0493).

Ananian further discloses in para #0196, #0493, The permission based security features and overall anonymity provided, make the system of the present invention safe, secure and beneficial to the User without the loss of privacy.”, and in para #0196 suggests “Such security can be multi-layered and encrypted using any current or future encryption technology”. Ananian does not specifically disclose the details such as the personal record being stored in the database in an encrypted state, the anonymity service having an access to the personal record only in the encrypted state; a resident application residing on a client device under control of the subject, the resident agent managing access to the personal record in an unencrypted state; a quarantine memory, the quarantine memory being a secure area of system memory on the client device; and a session agent to perform a database operation on the personal record in the unencrypted state in the quarantine memory. However, Boyce discloses as the personal record being stored in the database in an encrypted state (24, fig 1, col 6, lines 39-65), the anonymity service having an access to the personal record only in the encrypted state (20, fig 1, col 6, lines 39-65); a resident application residing on a client device under control of the subject (12, 30, fig 1), the resident agent managing access to the personal record in an unencrypted state (30, fig 1); a quarantine memory (34, fig

1), the quarantine memory being a secure area of system memory on the client device (34, fig 1); and a session agent (once user has obtained security credentials, col 6, lines 39-41) to perform a database operation on the personal record in the unencrypted state in the quarantine memory (secure transaction, fig 1, col 6, lines 23-65). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to incorporate the teachings of Boyce into Ananian, such that storing personal data in encrypted state in the anonymity provider database, create/update personal data locally on the secure region of user device and transmit personal record securely to Anonymity provider database as it is suggested by Ananian in para #0196 and #0493 and also implemented by Boyce in fig 1, col 6, lines 23-65 to build a system where users and vendors can interact anonymously for their mutual beneficial relationship.

7. As per claim 2, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as claim 1, above. In addition, Ananian discloses wherein the database operation comprises: a database query which compares the message profile to the message filtering policy (para #0422; para #0516); and a database query which compares the personal profile to the message targeting specification (para #0516).

8. As per claim 3, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as claim 1, above. In addition, Ananian discloses further comprising: a query result sent to the anonymity service from the resident application (para #0297, para #0358, line 12); a message delivery sent from the anonymity service to the resident application (para #0297); and a

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delivery confirmation sent from the resident application to the anonymity service (para #0297).

9. As per claim 4, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as claim 1, above. In addition, Ananian discloses wherein the database operation comprises a data record modification (update user profile, para #0526).

10. As per claim 5, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as claim 1, above. In addition, Ananian discloses wherein the database operation comprises a schema migration (catalogue migration, para #0508).

11. As per claim 6, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as claim 1, above. In addition, Ananian discloses a delivery notification sent from the anonymity service to the sponsor wherein the delivery notification comprises: an anonymous proof of delivery (Para #0450); an anonymous response from the subject (para #0450); and an anonymous payment record (para #0173; #0305; #0450; #512).

12. As per claim 7, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as claim 1, above. In addition, Ananian discloses an interactive response from the subject (para #0499).

13. As per claims 8 and 15, Ananian discloses a method and machine-accessible medium comprising content that , when accessed by a machine, causes the machine to:

maintaining a personal record belonging to a subject in a centralized database in an secured (can be accomplished by encrypted technology) environment(1102, fig 11, para #0351, line 7), the personal record comprising a personal profile and a message filtering policy (para #0351, lines 6-10); and distributing a database operation from the centralized database to a client device when the database operation is performed on the personal record in an unencrypted form (profile, para #0274, fig 11, is client sample screen shot performing updates on user record and it is not encrypted).

Ananian further discloses in para #0196, #0493, The permission based security features and overall anonymity provided, make the system of the present invention safe, secure and beneficial to the User without the loss of privacy.", and in para #0196 suggests "Such security can be multi-layered and encrypted using any current or future encryption technology". Ananian does not specifically disclose the details such as the personal record being stored in the database in an encrypted form. However, Boyce discloses the personal record being stored in the database in an encrypted form (24, fig 1, col 6, lines 39-65). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to incorporate the teachings of Boyce into Ananian, such that storing personal data in encrypted state in the anonymity provider database, create/update personal data locally on the secure region of user device and transmit personal record securely to Anonymity provider database as it is suggested by Ananian in para #0196 and #0493 and also implemented by Boyce in fig 1, col 6, lines 23-65 to build a system where users and vendors can interact anonymously for their mutual beneficial relationship.



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14. As per claims 9 and 16, claims are rejected for the same reasons as claims 8 and 15, above. In addition, Boyce discloses wherein distributing the database operation from the centralized database to the client device comprises: downloading a session agent by a resident application (once user has obtained security credentials, 30, fig 1, col 6, lines 39-41), the resident application being resident on the client device (28 and 30, fig 1), the session agent comprising a software update (once user has obtained security credentials, 30, fig 1, col 6, lines 39-41), the personal record (34, fig 1), and an encryption key (col 4, lines 8-16); and performing a database query by the session agent on the personal record in an unencrypted form (col 6, lines 21-65).

15. As per claims 10 and 17, claims are rejected for the same reasons as claims 8 and 15, above. In addition, Ananian discloses the client device comprises a device capable of sending and receiving a signal over a digital network (global network, 111, fig 1, para #0176), the client device being under a physical control of the subject (111 fig 1, para #0176).

16. As per claims 11, and 18, claims are rejected for the same reasons as claims 8 and 15, above. In addition, Ananian discloses establishing an intermediary between the subject and a message sponsor for the purpose of allowing the message sponsor to send a message to the subject based on the personal profile while maintaining an anonymity of the subject (111 user, 112 vendor, 140 anonymity, para #0184 and para

#0193).

17. As per claims 12 and 19, claims are rejected for the same reasons as claims 8 and 15, above. In addition, Ananian discloses establishing the intermediary between the subject and the message sponsor comprises: receiving a message deposit from the message sponsor (111 user, 112 vendor, 140 anonymity, para #0184 and para #0193), the message deposit comprising a message, a message targeting specification (para #0450), and a message profile (para #00193); negotiating permission to deliver the message to the subject (permission based, para #0493); delivering the message to the subject (para #0438); receiving a delivery confirmation from the subject (#0305); and sending the delivery confirmation to the message sponsor while maintaining anonymity of the subject (para #0297).

18. As per claims 13 and 20, claims are rejected for the same reasons as claims 8 and 15, above. In addition, Ananian discloses negotiating permission to deliver the message comprises: performing a targeting database query wherein the message targeting specification is compared to the personal profile (para #0450); and performing a filtering database query wherein the message filtering policy is compared to the message profile (para #0516).

19. As per claims 14 and 21, claims are rejected for the same reasons as claims 8 and 15, above. In addition, Ananian discloses accounting for a message charge to the

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message sponsor (para #0465; para #0479); accounting for a message credit to the subject (para #0465); communicating the message charge to an external payment system (trivnet, para #0479); and communicating the message credit to an external payment system (trivnet, para #0479).

### ***Conclusion***

20. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

U.S. Patent 6,151,643 teaches targeted software updates based on the user profile.

U.S. Patent 6,029,195 teaches profile management.

U.S. Patent 7,124,302 teaches secured transaction.

21. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MOHAMMAD A. SIDDIQI whose telephone number is (571)272-3976. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday -Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nathan J. Flynn can be reached on (571) 272-1915. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Mohammad A Siddiqi/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2154